



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

July 3, 2008

To: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE

Federal Fiscal Year 2009 Commerce-Justice- Science Appropriations Bill

Last month, before leaving for the one-week Independence Day recess, both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees approved their respective versions of the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009 Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) Appropriations Bill. The Senate bill includes \$57.9 billion in total FFY 2009 discretionary funding, which is \$1 billion more than in the House version, \$4.2 billion more than the President requested, and \$6.1 billion more than in FFY 2008.

Both versions reject the President's proposal to terminate all existing state and local law enforcement programs, including the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG), Southwest Border Prosecutor Program, DNA Initiative, and Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs, which are funded at a combined total of \$1.5 billion in FFY 2008. Instead, funding for state and local law enforcement programs overall would increase under both bills. Funding levels for programs of County interest include:

- SCAAP is funded at \$420 million by the House and \$355 million by the Senate, compared to \$410 million in FFY 2008. Typically, the Senate provides far less funding for SCAAP because a relatively few states receive most of the funds, including California;

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- Byrne JAG funding would increase from \$170 million in FFY 2008 to \$550 million in the House bill and \$580 million in the Senate bill;
- Southwest Border Prosecutor Program, which reimburses prosecution and pre-trial detention costs for federally initiated criminal cases, is funded at \$35 million by the House and \$25 million by the Senate, compared to \$30 million in FFY 2008; and
- Juvenile Accountability Block Grant is funded at \$80 million in the Senate bill and \$55 million in the House bill, up from \$52 million in FFY 2008.

Both bills rescind \$100 million in unobligated Office of Justice Program (OJP) funds from prior fiscal years, which is of concern because OJP may not obligate funding for all of its programs, such as SCAAP, before the end of the fiscal year in which funds were appropriated. Last year, the County successfully fought an initial OJP decision to apply a rescission against FFY 2006 SCAAP funds that had not yet been obligated to reimburse eligible state and local costs long after the end of FFY 2006. OJP has not yet obligated any FFY 2008 SCAAP funds. The deadline for state and local governments to apply to FFY 2008 SCAAP reimbursement ended on May 2, 2008.

The House version includes the following earmarked funding for the Sheriff's Department:

- \$250,000 for an Anti-Gang Intelligence Data Sharing and Analysis Project, requested through Representative Dreier;
- \$200,000 for an Automatic License Plate Recognition (ALPR) System Project, which would use ALPR technology for capturing, storing, and searching vehicle and license plate information in criminal investigations and identifying stolen vehicles, requested through Representative Harman;
- \$165,000 for the Sheriff's Youth Activity League Gang Prevention Program at its Century Station, requested by Representative Linda Sanchez;
- \$35,000 for ALPR equipment for a patrol vehicle at its Temple City Station, requested through Representative Schiff; and
- \$30,000 for youth activities at its Altadena Station, requested through Representative Schiff.

In addition to these projects, the House bill also includes \$350,000 for public safety technology improvements at the Sheriff's Cerritos Station, requested by the City of Cerritos, through Representative Linda Sanchez, and \$1,000,000 requested by

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Representative Schiff for the California Forensic Science Institute, which would benefit the County's crime laboratory located at Cal State Los Angeles. The Senate version includes \$300,000, requested through Senator Feinstein, for the same Anti-Gang Intelligence Data Sharing and Analysis Project which is funded in the House bill.

It is unclear when floor action will be scheduled on either the House or Senate versions of the FFY 2009 CJS appropriations bill. President Bush has threatened to veto any appropriations bill, which includes more overall funding than he requested. It is widely expected that Congress will not finalize any FFY 2009 appropriations bill until after the next President takes office.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:GK
MAL:MT:hg

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist

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